(SRI S. M. KRISHNA)

Filling up The Post of Assistant Commissioner, Bangalore

769. Sri BAPU GOWDA (Shahapur).—

Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(*a*) since when the post of Assistant Commissioner of Bangalore is vacant :

(*b*) the reasons for not filling up this post immediately ?

Sri D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister).—

(*a*) The post is not vacant at present.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of reply to Clause (*a*).

Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance

(i) *re* : **non availability of grazing land for cattle in Haliyal Taluk.**

Sri V. M. GHADI (Haliyal).—I beg to call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Agriculture and Forests to the non-availability of grazing land for village cattle at Haliyal Taluk.

Sri K. H. PATIL (Minister for Agriculture and forests).—

The Forest area of Haliyal Taluk is 327.18 sq. miles of which 224.54 sq.miles is under forests. The West Coast Paper Mills have been leased 156. 19 sq. mills of forest area for exploitation of bamboos.

Mature bamboo had died in this belt about decade back and the new regeneration from the seeds take a few years to establish. In the early years the regeneration of bomboo is avidly browzed by cattle and thus needs protection. Bamboo is necessary not only for the paper tndus'ry but also for the public. Hence it is in the interest of Government that the new regeneration of bamboo is protected and allowed to establish. The West Coast Paper Mills were hence permitted to fence some extent of the leased area at their cost. This was allowed on the express condition that it shall not prejudicially affect the privileges enjoyed by the local population. In consideration of this, the fencing is not continuous but openings are made. The breaks allow the village cattle to graze, while at the same time it restricts free movement of cattle all over the area. The restricted movement is confined to 56.35 sq. miles while over 37.20 sq.miles grazing can take place quite freely even within the overall fenced area.

Suitable instructions are being issued to see that the privileges of the local population are in no way infringed.

It may be made out that while over 56.35 sq.miles grazing is permitted though on a restricted scale there are no restrictions on grazing in the balance area of 168. 19 sq.miles of Forest.